



IN THE US PATENT OFFICE

EXAMINER -Forman

GROUP - 1634

SN - 09/631609

FILED - 8/4/00

BY - Tanaami

SIRS:

Responsive to the Office Action of 12/2/02, please amend the above as follows:

Claims 42-47, cancel without prejudice

Add claims 48-53, appearing in Appendix 1-4.

REMARKS

Claims 48-53 are in the application replacing claims 42-47 which were cancelled to expedite prosecution. The new claims were drafted in response to the Examiner's Sec. 112 objections and now avoid such Sec. 112 problems.

The method claims (now claims 48-50) were rejected under Section 103 over Balch, in view of Haff, and newly cited Ohkawa 5,486,337. The apparatus claims (now claims 51-53) were rejected under Section 103 over Balch and Haff. Applicant respectfully traverses both rejections as being without foundation.

Careful study of the Examiner's allegations shows that the subtleties of Applicant's invention appear to have not been fully appreciated. Thus, we will attempt to set forth our invention in a manner which will clarify these subtleties.

I hereby certify that the correspondence upon which this notice is placed is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.
MOONKAY KOJIMA, ATTORNEY

DATE: 12-30-02

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

RECEIVED
JAN 08 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AP/1600
14/E
CD